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To: Mail Stop Amendment
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Fax #: 571-273-8300
From: Ronald J. Kubovcik (Registration No. 25,401)
Date: July 27, 2006
Pages : 4 including this cover sheet.
Re : Appl. No. : 10/606,374 Confirmation No. 2800
Applicant : Junichi IGARASHI et al.
Filed : June 26, 2003
TC/A.U. : 3763
Examiner : Christopher Koharski
Dkt. No. : NPR-123
Cust. No. : 20374

Document transmitted herewith: (1) RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT

(Due: July 27, 2006)

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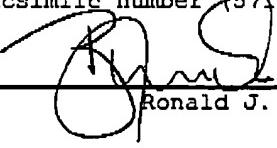
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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Ronald J. Kubovcik

RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

July 27, 2006

Sir:

This paper is submitted in response to the Office Action dated June 27, 2006.

In the Action, election of one of the following species is required:

- (A) Figures 1, 2 and 19,
- (B) Figures 11 to 14,
- (C) Figures 22A to C and 24A to B, and

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(D) Figures 23A to B.

Applicants elect group (A), Figures 1, 2 and 19, as the species. This election is made without traverse.

Upon election of group (A) as the species, an election of one of the following sub-species is also required:

- i) Figures 3A to C,
- ii) Figure 4,
- iii) Figures 5A to C,
- iv) Figures 6A to C,
- v) Figures 7A to C,
- vi) Figures 8A to C,
- vii) Figures 9A to C, and
- viii) Figure 10.

Applicants elect group (i), Figures 3A to C, as the sub-species. This election is also made without traverse.

Claims 2, 4, 5, 6, 9, 11, 13, 14, 15, 17, 21, 22, 24 and 25 are believed to read upon the elected species.

The foregoing is believed to be a complete and proper response to the Office Action dated June 27, 2006, and is believed to place this application in condition for allowance. If, however, minor issues remain that can be resolved by means of a telephone

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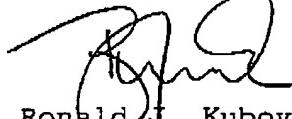
interview, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

In the event that this paper is not considered to be timely filed, applicants hereby petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fee for any such extension may be charged to our Deposit Account No. 111833.

In the event any additional fees are required, please also charge our Deposit Account No. 111833.

Respectfully submitted,

KUBOVCIK & KUBOVCIK



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